

Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-19 SAB-01 SAM-01

PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 L-03 DRC-01

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O 131930Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7382

INFO USINT DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

USUN NIACT IMMEDIATE 2591

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4349

E O 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, LE, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI RAID INTO LEBANON -- LEBANESE DESIRE CONVENE
SECURITY COUNCIL.

REF: STATE 075862

1. I WAS CONVOKED BY ACTING FONMIN GHOSN AT 1830 LOCAL PRIOR
TO THE RECEIPT OF REFTEL (OTHER SC PERMREP COMS CONVOKED
SEPARATELY). FORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, I BENEFITTED FROM BUFFUM/
HOUGHTON CONVERSATION SHORTLY PRIOR TO THAT TIME. I MENTIONED
ALL THE ARGUMENTS RAISED IN REFTEL AND THREW IN A FEW MORE OF
MY OWN SUCH AS THE PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF PFLP/GC HERE IN BEIRUT YESTERDAY AND MY OWN BELIEF THAT THIS
MORNING'S ISRAELI ACTIONS WERE ONLY REPRISAL TO BE EXPECTED IN
RESPONSE TO THE KIRYAT SHEMONA MASSACRE. I ADDED THAT I THOUGHT
LEBANON HAD GOTTEN OFF VERY EASY.

2. UNFORTUNATELY, WHILE GHOSN AGREED BASICALLY WITH ME
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ON MY ARGUMENTS, HE KEPT REVERTING TO THE "OBLIGATION"

OF THE GOL VIS-A-VIS THE PUBLIC DEMANDS FOR ACTION ON THIS CASE. THIS WAS, ACCORDING TO GHOSN OVERRIDING FACTOR IN GOL'S DECISION TO REQUEST SPECIAL SC MEETING.

3. RE DAYAN'S STATEMENT, (AFP VERSION WHICH GHOSN GAVE TO ME), I POINTED OUT THAT WHILE GOL HAD POLITICAL PROBLEMS, THERE WERE ALSO POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN ISRAEL AND A MAN UNDER ATTACK SUCH AS DAYAN OBVIOUSLY HAD TO TAKE STRONG POSITION. GHOSN ASKED THAT WE ENDEAVOR TO DO WHAT WE COULD TO MODIFY DAYAN'S STATEMENTS WHICH HE CLAIMED HAD "INFLAMED LEBANESE PUBLIC OPINION".

4. UPON RETURNING TO OFFICE, I FOUND STATE 075862 AND TELEPHONED ITS CONTENTS TO HADDAD WHO IS IN CONSTANT COMMUNICATION WITH GHOSN. I DWELT PARTICULARLY ON PARAGRAPH 5.

5. SUBSEQUENT TO TELCON WITH ATHERTON AND BUFFUM, I AGAIN TELEPHONED HADDAD AND TOLD HIM ADDITIONAL POINTS I HAD RECEIVED. HADDAD SAID THAT OUR ACTION FOLLOWING DAYAN'S STATEMENT WAS PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT. I ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT IT WAS THE CONSIDERED VIEW OF TOP LEVEL DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS THAT GOL'S SC ACTION WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE NOT ONLY FOR GOL BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY FOR OUR OVERALL PEACE EFFORTS IN THE AREA. AGAIN, HADDAD EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF THESE POINTS.

6. SIMULTANEOUSLY, EMBOFF CONTACTED BUTROS DEEB IN PRESIDENT'S OFFICE. ALL THE FOREGOING POINTS WERE MADE TO DEEB WHO TOOK CAREFUL NOTE AND SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT THEM IMMEDIATELY TO THE PRESIDENT.

7. EMBOFF ALSO SPOKE TO FORMER FONMIN KHALIL ABOU HAMAD AND MADE SAME POINTS. HE ASKED WHETHER SAME POINTS WERE BEING MADE BY ATHERTON AND BUFFUM TO KABBANI AND NAFFA. HE WAS ASSURED THIS WAS THE CASE.

8. COMMENT: BELIEVE THE ONE BIT OF HEADWAY MADE IS IN THE REALM OF TIMING. GHOSN MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT FORMAL ACTION WITH SECURITY COUNCIL MIGHT WELL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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DELAYED FOR FEW DAYS VIEW EASTER, ETC. WE, OF COURSE, PREPARED DO ANYTHING WE CAN HERE BUT BELIEVE THAT MOST HELPFUL ACTION NOW IS TO CONVINCE NAFFA THAT WE ARE DOING MAXIMUM VIS-A-VIS ISRAELIS, AND THAT LEBANESE CONVOCAION OF SC WOULD SERIOUSLY COMPLICATE OUR EFFORTS WITH ISRAELIS AND BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE FROM LEBANESE POINT OF VIEW.
GODLEY

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